

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:40 p.m. on the West Grounds at the Capitol. In his remarks, he referred to Chuck Canterbury, national president, Steve Young, former national president, and James O. Pasco, Jr., executive director, Fraternal Order of Police; Aliza Clark, president, Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary; New York City Police Com-

missioner Raymond W. Kelly; entertainer Marc Anthony; and Tucson, AZ, police officer Jamie McCarthy, who sang the national anthem. The Peace Officers Memorial Day and Police Week proclamation of May 9 is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Statement on the Indonesia-Free Aceh Movement Decision To Resume Discussions on Implementation of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement *May 15, 2003*

The United States welcomes the decision of the Government of Indonesia and the leadership of the Free Aceh Movement (GAM) to resume discussions in Tokyo this weekend aimed at implementing the December 2002 Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (COHA) between Indonesia and the GAM. The United States strongly supports efforts to pursue a negotiated peace in Aceh within the framework of a unified Indonesia.

I commend President Megawati for demonstrating her Government's commitment to the Aceh peace process and for her willingness to go the extra mile in pursuit of

peace. In returning to the negotiating table, the two sides are taking a concrete step toward a better future for the people of Aceh. I call on the leadership of the GAM to renew its commitment to a peaceful solution in Aceh and for both sides to pursue good faith implementation of the COHA. The United States appreciates the determined efforts of the Henri Dunant Center to advance the cause of peace and justice for Aceh. I also wish to thank Prime Minister Koizumi and the Government of Japan for hosting the negotiations between Indonesia and the GAM and taking an active leadership role in this process.

Message to the Senate Transmitting the Protocol of 1997 To Amend the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution From Ships *May 15, 2003*

To the Senate of the United States:

I transmit herewith, for the advice and consent of the Senate to its ratification, the Protocol of 1997 to Amend the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as Modified by the Protocol of 1978 thereto (hereinafter the "Protocol of 1997"). The Protocol of 1997, which would add Annex VI, Regulations for the Prevention of Air Pollution

from Ships, to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as Modified by the Protocol of 1978 (hereinafter the "MARPOL Convention"), was signed by the United States on December 22, 1998. I also enclose, for the information of the Senate, the report of the Department of State and its attached analysis of the Protocol of 1997, as well as

Resolution 2 of the 1997 MARPOL Conference with its annexed Technical Code on Control of Emission of Nitrogen Oxides from Marine Diesel Engines.

The MARPOL Convention is the global agreement to control pollution from ships. MARPOL Annex VI regulates the emission into the atmosphere of specified pollutants from ships. It complements the other annexes to the MARPOL Convention, which relate to the transport of oil (Annex I), harmful substances carried in bulk (Annex II), harmful substances in packaged form (Annex III), ship-generated sewage (Annex IV) and garbage (Annex V). The United States is a party to all of these annexes with the exception of Annex IV.

MARPOL Annex VI regulates the prevention of air pollution from ships by limiting the discharge of nitrogen oxides from large marine diesel engines, governing the sulfur content of marine diesel fuel, prohibiting the emission of ozone-depleting substances, regulating the emission of volatile organic compounds during the transfer of cargoes between tankers and terminals, setting standards for shipboard incinerators and fuel oil quality, and establishing re-

quirements for platforms and drilling rigs at sea.

MARPOL Annex VI is an important step toward controlling and preventing emissions of harmful air pollutants from ships. U.S. ratification of the Protocol of 1997 will demonstrate U.S. commitment to an international solution and should hasten the entry into force of the Protocol of 1997. Ratification will also enhance our ability to work within the treaty framework to obtain subsequent amendments that will require further reductions in emissions of nitrogen oxides that are now achievable through the use of modern control technologies which the United States strongly supports.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Protocol of 1997 and give its advice and consent to ratification, subject to the declarations and understanding set out in the accompanying report of the Secretary of State.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,
May 15, 2003.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

Remarks on Presenting the Commander in Chief's Trophy to the United States Air Force Academy Falcons May 16, 2003

The President. Coach, how are you?

Coach Fisher DeBerry. Sir.

The President. Sit down, please.

Coach DeBerry. Thank you, sir. Honored to be here.

The President. Thanks. Getting to be a habit. [Laughter]

It's my honor to welcome back to the White House the Air Force Academy Falcons, who have now won the Commander in Chief's Trophy for their 6th consecutive year and 16th time overall. The football

rivalry amongst our academies is—our military academies is one of the great traditions in our Nation, and I want to congratulate the Air Force Fighting Falcons for supremacy on the football field.

I particularly want to say something about Fisher DeBerry. He's obviously a unique guy who has got the unbelievable ability to motivate people in a good way. So Coach, I congratulate you. We're proud of you, and the school and the men you coach are better off for your presence.